

The Spirit Of The Age.

CY C. G. EASTMAN.

Freedom of Inquiry, and the Power of the People.

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Berkshire Medical Institution.

A annual course of lectures in this Institution will commence on the first Thursday, 6th of August 1840, and continue thirteen weeks, or the whole course \$50; for those who have attended two half courses \$10—graduation fee \$10.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE.

H. H. CHILDS, M. D.,
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ROBERT WATTS, JR. M. D.,
General and Pathological Anatomy.

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Chemistry, Medical Medicin, and Jurisprudence.

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Anatomy and Physiology.

Berkshire Medical Institution has been in operation twenty years and has been liberally patronized by the public. It has ever been the object of the Institution to make its services available to the medical science, and the rapidly improving state of medical science.

PARKER L. HALL, Sec'y.
field Mass., May, 1840.

R. KENDALL'S ADDRESS to the People of the United States.

THE country presents a new spectacle for the admiration of mankind.

The candidate for the Presidency is asking the suffrage of our people, and at the same time refuses over the questions they put to him for the purpose of satisfying themselves as to the principles by which he will be governed, if elected, his own counsel, a committee is interposed between him and his countrymen, not to aid him in frank replies to their reasonable inquiries, cut off direct communication, and keep him from the public. A free and intelligent popular voice precious right is to ask, and obtain the of every man who seeks their suffrages, upon topics appertaining to their government, are they told that they shall not enjoy this right, but take a candidate for the Presidency upon trust, and whenever the opportunity presents itself, take from them that which they possess. They do not suppose to compel their dependents to vote their will, at elections, instead of their own, and so to manage their private affairs as to reward or punish more humbly men for the surrender or assertion of the right of free suffrage. Upon the same principle, they do not hesitate to cheat in elections and cheat in the returns. Recall a few facts of recent occurrence, and it will be seen that I do them no injustice.

In 1838, the leaders of the present Harrison party had possession of the Government of Pennsylvania, in all its legislative and executive branches. By false registries, and the introduction of thousands of voters from abroad, they strove to elect a Governor and a majority of the House of Representatives, but were defeated. Instead of submitting to the decision of the people, they determined to disregard it and retain possession of the Government of the State at all hazard. From the county of Philadelphia, two Democratic Senators, and eight Representatives had been elected, and it was so certified by a majority of the judges of the election; yet, though the Democratic majorities were several hundred, a minority of the judges sent a certificate to the office of the Secretary of State, falsely showing that the Harrison candidates had a majority.—

The change of these eight members from one side to the other, would give them a majority of the House of Representatives. Fortified by this false certificate, and supported by the Governor and a majority of the Senate, the Secretary of State publicly advised his party to treat the election of Governor as if it had never been held, although the Democratic candidate had a majority of thousands.

It will be my endeavor, as far as necessary, to vindicate the Administration from the foul accusations cast upon it and earnestly to vindicate

That in the practice of a rigid morality clothe, can men or nations justly look for happiness and safety :

That there is but one code of morals for the private and public affairs:

That pure *morality* is true *democracy*, concurring to every one his right, and seeking advantages of none :

That every freeman has a right to know the political opinions of any candidate who is presented for his suffrages, and to deny him that right, is a wrong and insult which strikes at the root of representative government, and is the adoption of a kingly principle :

That the cause of morality, freedom, and law ; the interests of agriculture, manufactures, and commerce ; the peace of the country ; the rights of the people and the safety and improvement of their institutions ; will be best promoted and secured by the re-election of Mr. Van Buren :

And, finally, that it is the indispensable duty of every man who wishes to preserve the blessings of an honest representative government, the rights of property, the faith of contracts, the honor of his country, and the freedom of man, to oppose, by all honorable means, the election of General Harrison who already sets the people at defiance, while his friends mock and insult them by a childish and ridiculous *humor*, in order to amuse the wild masses of Africa.

This design, more bold, considering the people and the age, than the most daring usurpations of Caesar, Cromwell, or Napoleon, roused the spirit of '76 : indignant multitudes poured into the capital ; they organized a Committee of SAFETY, and prepared to assert the rights of the people.—The affrighted Governor and his guilty counsellors, instead of receding from their foul design, denounced the people as rebels and determined to carry out the usurpation by force of arms ? Troops were called out provided with "buckshot and ball cartridge;" the capital of the State responded with the din of arms ; and the peace of the Commonwealth seemed to be suspended upon a hair. Lest the militia of the State might show some reluctance to shoot down their own friends and subvert their own rights, the Governor had the audacity to request the aid of a body of United States regulars, then in the vicinity, and to demand of the President the aid of the army of the Union !

What, in this case, did the people ask ? Nothing but the installation of their public officers, duly and constitutionally elected by large majorities.—And why did not the Harrison party proceed in their monstrous design to deprive them of this dearest right of freemen : to treat the election as if it had not been held, and retain the possession of power at the point of the bayonet ? Not because they relented or repented ; not because they were not ready for blood and carnage, to put down the rights of the people ; but because two of their number, and two only, refused to act out the scene, and receding from the usurping House of Representatives, left it without a quorum. As bold, impudent, and unscrupulous as they were, they dared not proceed when they could no longer shield their usurpation under constitutional forms.

What on this occasion was the conduct of those who now constitute the Harrison party in other States ? Did they denounce the usurpers and take the side of the people ? No ; almost to a man, they sustained, encouraged, and defended Governor Ritner and his daring associates. The people received from them but ferocious abuse, with the epithets of traitors and rebels. The attempt to cleave down by the sword the most precious rights of freemen, was everywhere applauded by them, shewing that the same contempt for the people pervades that party throughout the Union.

And what have we seen at the present session of Congress ? The House of Representatives kept in a state of disorganization for weeks, by an attempt to force into it, as members, five men from New Jersey, when five other men notoriously and confessedly had a majority of the votes given at the election. The "bread seal" of the Government, though covering a known and acknowledged fraud, was held by them more sacred than the people's right of suffrage and was considered a better title to a seat in Congress than majority of the people's votes ! This was not a Pennsylvania scene, probably because the Harrison party here had no Governor Ritner under their control to back the "bread seal" with "buckshot and ball;" but the contempt for the people, and the *will to trample on their rights*, were in both cases the same.

Friends of the United States ! Your liberties are not so safe as you may suppose. Think you, if Harrison had been President, the army of the United States would have been refused to his friends in Pennsylvania ? Think you, that in such a condition of things, the people of that State could have maintained their right to a Governor and Legislator of their own free choice, but by wading through rivers of blood ? It was at Harrison, on the very scene of the Ritner usurpation, and by the influence of the leaders in that desperate effort, that the nomination of Harrison was effected ! If elected, Ritner's advisers will be his advisors ; the profligacy and daringness of that faction will be transferred to Washington ; and their spirit will pervade the administration of the General Government.

They show it by asking the people to vote for a *bold and guarded candidate*, who "will answer the questions of neither friends nor foes." They show it by abandoning all argument, and giving principle out of the contest.

They show it by their leg-cabins, cider-barrels, pitchers, canoes, balls, banners, pictures, and parade, riot, and drunkenness ; fit only to amuse, if they did not disgust, a London populace or a Faustin mob.

They show it by their incessant and monstrous misrepresentations of the acts of the Administration, and their causeless abuse of the men who compose it.

Where is the true-hearted American who would not be ashamed of his country, if she could, by such means, be induced to abandon her right to question candidates for office, and throw herself unconditionally into the arms of a President and a party which has no principles, or dare not avow them ?

From this contempt of the people springs the opposition of the leaders of this party to the extension of the right of suffrage, and their steady attempts to corrupt it when extended. Not believing the people fit for self-government, they will not trust them with power when they can avoid it ; and, whenever the opportunity presents itself, take from them that which they possess. They do not suppose to compel their dependents to vote their will, at elections, instead of their own, and so to manage their private affairs as to reward or punish more humbly men for the surrender or assertion of the right of free suffrage. Upon the same principle, they do not hesitate to cheat in elections and cheat in the returns. Recall a few facts of recent occurrence, and it will be seen that I do them no injustice.

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